

Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD)



What is LEAD?

LEAD is a pre-booking or pre-arrest diversion program. In LEAD, low-level offenders for whom probable cause for arrest exists are diverted from arrest or booking by immediately referring them to harm-reduction, non-abstinence based, individualized case management.

Why is LEAD important?

LEAD was intended to demonstrate that non-coercive and non-punitive approaches to currently illegal activities such as drug use *and* other activities that individuals engage in to obtain funds to purchase drugs (e.g. car prowls, mail theft, prostitution, shoplifting) can be more effectively and humanely addressed outside of the criminal justice system.

What does LEAD offer?

LEAD offers individualized case management services. The types of services accessed are entirely determined by individual participants and their case manager. As noted the *only* requirement for being in LEAD is to complete an intake assessment within a specified period of time. After that the individual is free to walk away without repercussion.

Does LEAD work?

LEAD started in Seattle, WA in 2011 and was heavily evaluated.

- People in LEAD were 60% less likely than people in the control group to be arrested after being in LEAD
- 82% were homeless prior to participation and 40% were housed
- 55% received drug treatment through LEAD
- Over 35 jurisdictions are exploring or already implementing LEAD

Who is involved in LEAD?

LEAD involves a wide variety of stakeholders including the Mayor's Office, City Council members, the Attorney General's Office, Prosecuting Attorney's Office, Police and Sheriff Departments, Public Safety, legislators and healthcare and social service providers and the community.

For more information, visit <http://leadkingcounty.org/>

LEAD Hawaii Hui

ACLU - Hawaii Chapter
CARE Hawaii
Community Alliance on Prisons
CHOW Project
Drug Policy Forum of Hawaii
Harm Reduction Hawaii
Harm Reduction Services Branch,
Hawaii State Dept. of Health
Hawaii Appleseed
Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition
Helping Hands Hawaii
Hina Mauka
Institute for Human Services
Ku Aloha ola Mau
Mental Health America of Hawaii
Partners in Care
PHOCUSED
The Salvation Army ATS-FTS
Susannah Wesley Community Center
We are Oceania

Want to see LEAD in Hawaii?
Join our hui!
Contact Heather at
husk@chowproject.org
or call 853-3292.